CLAIMS

1. A method for the prognosis of myocardial infarction or cerebral ictus patients, comprising:

a) providing a blood or plasma sample from a myocardial infarction or ictus patient;

b) measuring the concentration of PTX3 in the sample;

c) comparing the PTX3 concentration in the sample with a reference concentration that is equal to or higher than the PTX3 concentration found in healthy subjects, wherein an increased PTX3 concentration in the sample from the myocardial infarction patient is an indicator of increased risk of death or heart failure, while an increased PTX3 concentration in the sample from the ictus patient is an indicator of increased risk of death or complications.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the PTX3 reference concentration value is 2 ng/ml.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the PTX3 reference concentration value is 5 ng/ml.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein the PTX3 concentration is determined by means of an immunoassay.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said immunoassay in an ELISA.

6. A method according to claim 1, for the early determination of the risk of death or heart failure in a myocardial infarction patient.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the PTX3 concentration is determined within 24 hours from the myocardial infarction.

8. A method according to claim 1, for the early determination of the risk of death or complications in an ictus patient.

9. A method according to claim wherein the PTX3 concentration is determined within 24 hours from the ictus.

10. A kit for carrying out the method of claim 1, containing anti-PTX3 antibodies, the PTX3 molecule and detection reagents in the same or separate containers.